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Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, Audrey McAvoy

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MILITARY TIMES, Meghann Myers

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5.) 21st Century Sailor bi-weekly roll-up:

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1.) Chief of Naval Personnel Visits the U.S. Navy's 6th Fleet / 13 OCT 15 [LINK]

Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

NAPLES, Italy (NNS) -- This week, the Navy's Chief of Personnel, Vice Adm. Bill Moran, is visiting Sailors assigned to Naples and Sigonella, Italy, in the Navy's U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations.

During his trip, Moran and Fleet Master Chief April Beldo, are meeting with Sailors assigned to commands at Naval Support Activity Naples, the U.S. 6th Fleet's headquarters, and Naval Air Station Sigonella. While here, they will discuss many of the Navy's new personnel initiatives during a series of all hands calls and meetings with Sailors.

"Sailors assigned to the U.S. 6th Fleet are operating forward in significant roles for the United States' national security mission. It's important for Fleet Beldo and I to understand how some of our new personnel policies might affect our Sailors. The best way to find out is to meet with them, listen to their concerns and take their feedback," said Moran. "We're working hard to modernize personnel policies and retention tools that recognize talent and further empower commanding officers so we can maintain a ready force well into the future. The Navy we have today is made possible by the best Sailors we've ever seen. We aim to keep it that way."

This visit marks the second time Moran has visited Sailors in the U.S. 6th Fleet as CNP.

As the Chief of Naval Personnel, Moran answers to the Chief of Naval Operations on matters of the Navy's manpower readiness. He also serves as the deputy chief of naval operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training Education/N1) and oversees the Bureau of Naval Personnel, Navy Personnel Command, Naval Education and Training Command, and Navy Recruiting Command.

For more news from Chief of Naval Personnel, visit www.navy.mil/local/cnp/.

2.) Navy Chief: Service Considering Expanding Paternity Leave/ 14 OCT 15

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, Audrey McAvoy

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii — The Navy's top officer said Tuesday the service is considering extending paternity leave for new fathers.

The Navy currently awards married fathers up to 10 days of paid leave upon the birth of a child. In July, the Navy tripled paid maternity leave for female sailors and Marines to 18 weeks.

A female sailor asked Navy Adm. John Richardson during a meeting with hundreds of service members at a Pearl Harbor pier whether the Navy might increase paternity leave as well.

Richardson said it was something officials in Washington were now discussing.

Richardson and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Mike Stevens called about 10 sailors who became new fathers within the past year to the front of the pier and asked them how much paternity leave the Navy should offer.

The group quickly discussed the issue, and then replied their consensus was that the Navy should give 30 days of paternity leave.

Richardson said he'll take that opinion back to Washington.

"It's great to get a sense for what your input will be," Richardson told the sailors.

He said their view consistent with other thoughts he has heard on the issue, with many saying paternity leave should last about three weeks to 30 days.

Richardson held the "all hands call" meeting during his first trip to Hawaii since he became chief of naval operations last month. He stopped in the islands at the beginning of a two week trip to Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, Bahrain and Italy.

Other topics during the meeting with sailors addressed developing more comfortable boots, flame resistant uniforms, reenlistment bonuses and proposed changes to retirement programs.

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Five officers reported for their new jobs on Oct. 5, but for the first time in years, not in uniform.

Two lieutenants, two lieutenant commanders and a commander started year-long stints at Amazon and FedEx as part of Navy Secretary Ray Mabus' Tours with Industry program, announced in May, to give top officers experience in America's cutting-edge companies that they'll bring back to the service.

The first round is for officers, but next year the Navy has plans to expand the program to up to 30 spots and start accepting enlisted sailors, who must commit to serving more years afterward.

The first class of participants come from varied backgrounds, including one aviator who is taking a step off of his "golden career path" to try something new.

"I'm a pilot, so I'm not a huge fan of stepping out of the cockpit, but if I'm going to leave, this seemed like a great way to do it," Lt. Cmdr. Jared Loller, who flies the EA-18G Growler, told Navy Times in an Oct. 7 phone interview.

An experienced O-4 with 14 1/2 years in uniform, Loller was the maintenance officer at Electronic Attack Wing Squadron 133 earlier this year, dreading the idea of leaving the squadron environment for his next assignment.

"I was trying to stay in the cockpit at a time in my career when I'm supposed to leave the cockpit to pursue opportunities that will make me a more well-rounded officer, like the joint tour," he said.

But when SECNAV announced the new program, Loller jumped at the chance. He's now in Arizona doing his initial two-week training before he flies home to the Pacific Northwest, where he's been serving at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington.

At Amazon headquarters in Seattle, he'll work as a senior program manager with their customer excellence systems department, where he'll work with a small team on projects to improve Amazon's customer service.

"It just seemed like a unique opportunity to really gain some valuable experience in a way that I think few people who aim to spend a career in the military ever get a chance to do," he said.

The Tours with Industry program is designed to give top officers a chance to spend some time in corporate America and bring back to the Navy what they've learned.

In addition to Loller, four more officers are in the program:

- •Cmdr. Shane Rice, a human resources officer based in Millington, Tennessee, is at FedEx in Memphis.
- •Lt. Cmdr. Tenisha M. Finley, also an HR officer at Millington, is also at FedEx.
- •Lt. Niki Elizondo, a second-tour division officer on the destroyer Dewey in San Diego, is at Amazon.
- •Lt. William Hall, also a second-tour DIVO, is based in Everett, Washington, and assigned to Amazon.

The first round of tours was only open to officers, but next year, the Navy plans to expand to 10-15 officers and 10-15 enlisted every year, according to an Oct. 5 release from the chief of naval personnel.

Those spots would be open to O-3s and above with more than five years of service and a sea tour under their belts, as well as E-6s and above.

"But in order to go for this program, you have to be selected," Loller said.

The process involves submitting a biography and letter of intent to your command, who send the package to detailers at Navy Personnel Command to comb through records and evaluations.

They're looking for the best of the best, Loller said, and the final selections are ultimately up to each sailor's type commander, who oversees the manning and training for branches of the service.

During the program, the officers remain on active duty with all of their pay and benefits tied to the area where they're stationed. They will have to serve two more years for each year spent at the industry internship.

Loller is moving his family south from Whidbey Island to Seattle, which will count as a normal permanent change-of-station move, he said.

His orders are with a Seattle-area ROTC unit, where he'll be on a random urinalysis list and where he'll take his physical fitness assessments.

It takes some organizing to keep track of Navy admin business while he's away, he said, but it's mostly a habit at this point.

"It's not that bad," he said. "I think that as someone who's been in the Navy for 14 and 1/2 years, you kind of get used to dealing with it."

New environment

Though Tours with Industry participants are considered active duty, their day-to-day lives will be completely different.

"The most dangerous thing I will be doing will be driving down [Interstate]-5 rather than launching myself off an aircraft carrier," Loller said.

And then there's personal appearance, which at a tech company like Amazon is a totally different ball game.

"The hardest part is figuring out what to wear because I'm not putting a uniform on," he said. "If you wake up late and you skip shaving, no one cares at Amazon."

Despite the newness, Loller said, he's more excited than apprehensive to start heading up a team, though it will be a lot different than the squadron set-up he's used to.

"Leading sailors is kind of fun, but the one thing I've found when you're managing civilians, there's a much larger age range," he said.

There's also a wide range of experience and education, because companies like Amazon don't hire or promote by strict guidelines.

Otherwise, it will still be a lot of long hours and travelling, which isn't much different than a department head's job description, he added.

Once the year is over, the officers will work with their detailers to line up their next billets, known as a "utilization tour," to make sure they get to apply their new skills immediately.

Loller is due for a promotion next year, he said, so Amazon's unique leadership training will probably serve him at any O-5 job in the Navy, as well as after retirement.

4.) Navy Releases Energy General Military Training / 15 OCT 15 [LINK]

Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Navy released the inaugural Energy General Military Training (GMT) lesson via Navy eLearning on the Navy Knowledge Online website.

Navy Energy Coordination Office developed the lesson and it explains the benefits of energy efficiency for combat capability and mission success.

"It's important that Sailors and Marines know how their energy decisions can impact operations," said Joe Bryan, deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for energy, "Tools like the Energy GMT, the Energy Warrior app, and the Marine Corps' Energy Ethos drive the point home to our personnel that smart, efficient energy use can increase combat capability, enhance operational flexibility and help keep our people safe. Energy Action Month is the perfect time to launch the Energy GMT."

The GMT presents examples of technological enhancements and procedures that can conserve fuel for when it's most needed to complete the mission.

In addition, the GMT encourages students to submit their own energy ideas, which can be done through various channels, including the Navy Energy website http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil/energy/energywarrior/idea/.

Rear Adm. Doug Morton, director, Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division (OPNAV N45), emphasizes the importance of receiving input from across Navy.

"I encourage Sailors to share their ideas for conserving our limited energy resources," said Morton. "Gaining an advantage over our adversaries by being good stewards of energy is contingent upon our collective brainpower."

"When I view the videos of our Sailors on Energy Warrior, I am encouraged by their interest in energy conservation and efficiency and how that translates to mission readiness," Morton continued. "It's vital to spark a dialogue with your shipmates, command leadership and the Navy to help us adopt new and innovative practices to get more combat capability out of our existing Fleet."

"Training and education can help generate a broad commitment to an energy efficient culture when integrated with strategy and goals, technology, rewards and incentives," said Dr. Dan Nussbaum, chair of the Energy Academic Group at NPS. "We see evidence of the shift in energy culture in our young officers at [NPS] who recognize the importance of energy efficiency as a combat enabler."

"The Energy GMT provides a great overview of basic energy conservation measures," said Mr. Bill Marvel, Naval Training and Education Command GMT program manager. "It also reinforces the role all hands can take in supporting Navy's energy initiatives by becoming an 'Energy Warrior'!"

For more information about the Navy Energy Program, please visit http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil/energy/.

DOD personnel can access other Navy Energy resources on the CAC-enabled milSuite site: https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/navy-energy.

For more news from Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division, visit www.navy.mil/local/n45/.

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